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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM THE DIRECTOR AF/C AMBASSADOR RENDER

DATE: June 13, 1994

FROM: Dirk W. Dijkerman, USAID/Rwanda

SUBJECT: Interagency Working Group on Humanitarian Issues in the Rwanda-Burundi Sub-Region: Summary of the Friday, June 10, 1994 Meeting

Attending the subject meeting in Room 3519 NS at 1400 were representatives from AFR/EA, DOD/OD, USAID/Rwanda, USAID/Burundi, BHR/FFP, BHR/OFDA, STATE/EB, STATE/PRM and Peace Corps.

Old Business:

-- **Total Assistance Provided to Date:** Based on the Working Group data summarized in the attached tables, the U.S. Government has provided \$94 million to the Rwanda-Burundi sub-region since April 1994.

This running total does not include the \$10 million OFDA has budgeted for the DART team now in the field, nor does it include USAID/Rwanda's plans to obligate \$1 million for orphans and unaccompanied minors, \$2 million for unsolicited proposals from NGOs to work in Rwanda, plus another several million for STD/HIV-AIDS prevention activities in the camps. Given the U.S. Government's outpouring to date, the question of how much it should feel obligated to put into the Rwanda-Burundi problem will eventually need to be addressed to as to avoid the USG contributing more than its standard "rule of thumb" fair share of 25 percent.

Working Group members noted that the "word" on all we had done was not getting reported by the Press, although the information was getting out to them.

-- **ERMA Monies:** STATE/PRM is working on additional ERMA monies for Rwanda-Burundi, but the other demands on those monies appear to have equally high, if not higher, priority.

ACTION: STATE/PRM MLang to report next week on status of request.

-- **UN Human Rights Monitors for Burundi:** STATE has found \$150,000 for Burundi. USAID/Burundi has agreed in principle to using its monies to help

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contribute another sum, although it needs to identify the exact source of funds. The objective is for USAID/Burundi to match the STATE contribution.

ACTION: USAID/Burundi RNewberg to identify the source of funds.

-- **Numbers on the Flow of Rwandans:** Overall, there is no clear picture on the numbers of Rwandans on the move or to where they are moving. Analysis from available imagery did not support the UN estimates of figures of 1-2 million people on the move. Rwandans in groups of 100s and 1,000s were observed in many parts of southern Rwanda on various roads. Several large (20,000-25,000) groups were seen to be settled around Gitarama. In the June 10th telcon with DART team members, it was conveyed that UN's estimates of the numbers of people on the move may be coming down. UN staff returning from the Rwandan countryside are reporting that they see no people, only dead cattle. No one seems to know where the Rwandans are hiding. Efforts to clarify the numbers of people at risk, on the move, and their direction will continue. Large numbers in less accessible locations, such as Kivu area, will definitely complicate emergency relief operations.

Just before this meeting, STATE/PRM received a new UNHCR report on the numbers of refugees. Overall, the numbers are up again by several thousands. USAID/R ASmith will update the summary page on people affected by the crisis and their location. STATE/PRM also reported that the flows of Rwandans into Tanzania have declined from 3,000-5,000 per day to 500-1,500 per day.

ACTION: This Thursday, June 16, at 12:30 in the OFDA Conference Room, a CIA analyst will present and analyze the available imagery on Rwanda. All Working Group members will encourage their contacts to obtain and report on the numbers of Rwandans on the move.

-- **Rapid Response Resources:** In follow-up to last week's action to assess the availability of USG funds to respond rapidly if new masses of people would begin to arrive, DOD/OSD noted that it still had unspent roughly \$10 million for the Rwanda operation. USAID/OFDA/DART has an authority to spend up to \$10 million in the field. At present, the DART team has received five proposals and is working with the submitting NGOs get them into a final form. It is unclear how much of the money provided by STATE/PRM to UNHCR remains unspent. However, new appeals are expected from UNHCR during the week of June 20th.

-- **Atwood Visit to Europe and the Horn:** The Working Group still awaits the results from the AID Administrator's trip to the Horn and Europe to see if he was successful in obtaining additional commitments from the EU to provide assistance to the region. If not, the Working Group will explore ways to encourage the EU to contribute more.

New Business:

-- **WFP Plans and Ocean Port Bottlenecks:** Members of the Working Group met with WFP staff yesterday, June 9th, to discuss the forthcoming WFP plan for getting food into the region. Against this backdrop, the REDSO/ESA-OFDA analysis of logistical assets and constraints in the Greater Horn was presented. A major theme from the analysis was to problem of getting food out of the ports, including Dar Es Salaam and Mombasa.

ACTION: USAID/FFP RHudson and USAID/R ASmith will continue to work with WFP to clarify its operational strategy. DOD/OSD will pursue placing one or two OSD representatives in the field with the DART team to assess first hand the bottlenecks and solutions. OSD representatives will closely coordinate their efforts with WFP and UNHCR.

Next Meeting:

The next Working Group meeting will be Friday, June 17, at 1300 (not the normal time of 1400), in the same room.

Attachment: Summary of USG assistance provided to date, assistance under consideration, and location and numbers of people at risk.

DISTRIBUTION:

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